

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 942

By Moore

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Bill Ketchum for sixty years of volunteerism with the Box 55 Fire Buff Club.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servant who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable person who evinces the great integrity and probity is Mr. Bill Ketchum, who has faithfully volunteered in support of Nashville's firefighters for the past sixty years; and

WHEREAS, a founding member of the Box 55 Fire Buff Club, Mr. Ketchum helped establish this non-profit organization in 1952, with the singular mission to serve the men and women of the Nashville Fire Department whenever they were summoned to battle blazes and respond to similar such emergencies; and

WHEREAS, with commodities housed in an eighteen-foot response truck equipped with water tanks, refrigeration, and cooking appliances, the Box 55 volunteers respond to all active fire scenes to provide respite, rehabilitation, re-hydration, and sustenance to the firefighters and emergency personnel who risk life and limb to save lives and protect properties; and

WHEREAS, manned solely by volunteers, Box 55 is fortunate to be the benefactor of the dedication of persons such as Mr. Ketchum. He is an extraordinary man of commitment, loyalty, and great resourcefulness who has been highly instrumental in the longevity and success of this unique and fine organization; and

WHEREAS, a proud member of Box 55 to this day, Mr. Ketchum has held various leadership positions through the years and has been stalwart in implementing the yearly poinsettia fundraiser, which is so very important to the club's annual budget; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian who is surely a servant of goodness to others, Mr. Ketchum is a member of Charlotte Heights Church of Christ, and he is very active with the Church of Christ Disaster Relief Ministry; and

WHEREAS, in all he does, he is blessed with the love and support of his wife, Dot, and their two sons; and

WHEREAS, a man whose walk through life exemplifies the noble precepts of public service, Bill Ketchum is the absolute personification of a true Tennessee Volunteer; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commend Mr. Bill Ketchum for his unswerving commitment to volunteer service to the firefighters of Nashville. We appreciate his service and extend to him our most sincere good wishes for success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.